

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4280
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2002
AGRICULTURAL TRADE REFORMS BY US
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the US commitment to agricultural trade reform is in jeopardy after the signing of New Farm Act by US Government;
- (b) if so, whether the Indian Industry has expressed concern at this New Farm Act that would allow US Government to grant large subsidies to the farmers;
- (c) if so, whether the Government have taken up this issue with the US Government; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the US Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (d): The proposed increase in support to Agriculture under the US Farm Security and Rural Investment Act, 2002, may have a price depressing effect on the world markets. This may also adversely affect the market access opportunities for developing countries. Concerns to this effect have been expressed in various quarters.

India in its negotiating proposals filed with the WTO has already demanded substantial reductions in domestic support and elimination of export subsidies by the developed countries within a limited period.